

Serial No.: 09/964,840  
Amendment Dated: December 29, 2003  
Reply to Office Action: September 29, 2003  
Attorney Docket No. 225/50450

### **REMARKS**

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of Claims 11-13 and 16, and the indication of the allowability of the subject matter of Claims 14 and 15, as set forth at page 3 of the Office Action. Claims 14 and 15, in particular, would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the formal grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. By the foregoing amendment, Applicants have amended Claims 14 and 15 in a manner which addresses and is believed to resolve the formal grounds of rejection set forth at page 2 of the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 14 and 15 are now allowable as well. Moreover, Claims 2-10 have been amended to depend, directly or indirectly from allowable Claim 14, and Claim 1 has been cancelled. Accordingly, all claims remaining of record in this application should now be allowable.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

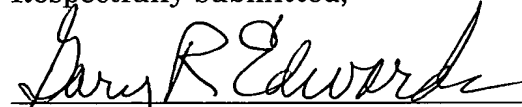
If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please

Serial No.: 09/964,840  
Amendment Dated: December 29, 2003  
Reply to Office Action: September 29, 2003  
Attorney Docket No. 225/50450

charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #225/50450).

December 29, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gary R. Edwards", written over a horizontal line.

Gary R. Edwards  
Registration No. 31,824

CROWELL & MORING LLP  
Intellectual Property Group  
P.O. Box 14300  
Washington, DC 20044-4300  
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844  
GRE:kms/095309

2100134